(b) The claims filed with the UNCC have been divided into 6 categories ranging from A to F. Category 'A' covers all persons who fled from Kuwait/Iraq in the aftermath of Iraqi aggression. Category 8 pertains to death/serious injury, Category C & D to loss of property. Category E refer to corporate claims while category stands for government claims. Out of these 6 categories, claims in category A and B have been fully processed while category C claims have been partially processed. The number of claims aproved in these three categories is as follows:—

Category	Claims
A	102,154
B	183
C	21,371

(c) Number of claims rejected in various categories is as follows:

(i) claims rejected in category 'A' : 2955

(ii) claims rejected in category 'B' : 75

(iii) C,D,E,F : Firgures are not available. UNCC (United Nations Compensation Commission) never conveys the reasons why a particular claim is rejected.

(d) A large number of queries are received from claimants regarding status of their claims. Those whose claims are rejeced are informed accordingly.

(e) and (g) The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva maintains continuous contact with the UNCC to ensure that interests of our workers are fully protected. it is the exclusive responsibility of the UCC to evaluate and scrutinize the claims, evolve a payment procedure and deliver the awarded compensation to eligible claimants for payment through national governments. The UNCC does not enteratin requests for review of rejected cases.

Pak's Capability to Make Nuclear Bombs

1713. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in the Hindustan Times, dated the 12th July, 1997, capationed "Pak can make twelve N-Bombs in 6 months", according to two researchers with the largest US non-Governmental Project on non-proliferation issues;

(b) whether it is a fact that pakistan's stockpile of fissile material currently consists of weapons-grade Uranium (HEU), enogh for 23 to 39 nuclear weapons; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are aware of pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons programme. Government closely monitors all developments relating to Pakistan's nuclear programme. Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and natonal interest in accordance with its assessment of developments relating to India's security environment.

Decline in the Standard of Indian Council of World Affairs

1714. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the standard of the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, which is an internationally-renowned institution, has been constantly declning; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to enhance its standard, check the misuse of the property of the institution and safeguard the interests of the